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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ed AUSTIN, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/607,010

Group Art Unit: 3733

FILED: June 26, 2003

EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 39262/285776
(01-31-0780)

DATE: May 11, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND
PETITION FOR ONE-MONTH TIME EXTENSION**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2006 (the "Action").

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Petition for One-Month Time Extension begins on page 15 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 16 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 11, 2006.

Handwritten signature of Geoffrey K. Gavin
Geoffrey K. Gavin - Registration No. 47,591

05/16/2006 ZJUHR1 00000005 10607010
01 FC:1251 120.00 DP
02 FC:1201 400.00 DP
03 FC:1202 250.00 DP